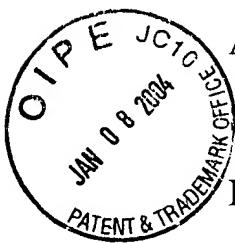


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



APPLICANT: Herbert Munzenberger
SERIAL NO.: 09/941,115
FILED: August 28, 2001
FOR: Flexible Fire Protection Plate
EXAMINER: Edward J. Cain
GROUP: 1714

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Sir:

This is a response to the Office Action dated October 3, 2003 in which the Examiner rejected Claims 1-8 and 20-22 as being unpatentable over the prior art, and indicated that Claims 9-19 would become allowable upon having been rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The Examiner's indication of the allowability of Claims 9-19 is noted and appreciated. However, it is respectfully submitted that rewriting Claims 9-